

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-21 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

In the Office Action mailed April 8, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,766,165 to Sharma, et al. To the extent that the rejection remains applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicants hereby traverse the rejection, as follows.

Attached hereto, the Applicants have provided a Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.131, by which the Applicants submit that Sharma is not applicable as a reference against claims 1, 11, 20 and 21 and the claims that depend thereon.

For at least the above reason, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending distinguish the present invention from the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.


Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with

this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing attorney docket
No. 026304-00002.

Respectfully submitted,

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